



October 6th 2024
27th Sunday of Ordinary
Time

Pastor: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
Fr. Henry Email: frhenrys@gmail.com
Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Wieslaw Papuga
Priest on Call: 902-746-8233 (Emergencies and Sacrament of the sick)
Office hours: Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm
Church email : stambrosemail@gmail.com
Bulletin email: stambrosebulletin1@gmail.com
Tabitha Centre: 902-742-8960
Confession/Adoration Wednesday 7:00-8:00

MASS INTENTIONS – October 5th – 13th, 2024

St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Anniv. Edward Deveau
Sun. 9am Wedding Anniv. Anita and Garnet Banks
Sun. 11:15 am Parishioners
Tues. 6:30 pm Anniv. Peter Eldridge
Wed. 6:30 pm Anniv. Sandy Fevens
Thurs: 9 am Eddie Theriault
Fri. 9 am Travis Avery Pothier
Sat. 4 pm Parishioners
Sun. 9am Anniv. William Cottreau
Sun. 11:15 am Stephen Harding

Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sun. 10 am Oct. 6 Vivian Surette
Sun. 10 am Oct. 13 Mary Ellen Saulnier

REFLECTION: **Authentic Love** the Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, “Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?” They were testing him. The Pharisees were not interested in the deepest truths of God. They were only interested in twisting God’s truths in an attempt to prove their own self-righteousness. The question they posed to Jesus was a trap, but Jesus doesn’t fall into it. He asks them what Moses taught about the love in marriage and then explains that their understanding of Moses’ teaching was based on the

hardness of their hearts and not the original intent of God as was revealed in the beginning. Our Church’s teaching regarding the indissolubility of marriage flows from the teachings found in the Book of Genesis, subsequently confirmed and clarified by Jesus in today’s Gospel. When a true marriage bond is established by the free and total consent of a man and woman, that bond can only be separated by death. From a much broader perspective, the marriage bond of which Jesus speaks also reveals to us the depth of commitment that God has made to each one of us and the reciprocal commitment He invites us to make. God’s covenant offered to us is freely given, total, and irrevocable. This is important to understand. God will never change His mind when it comes to the commitment, He has made to each one of us. For our part, we must continuously seek to reciprocate that commitment by giving ourselves to the will of God in the same way. Though much more could be said about this exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees regarding earthly marriage, we must also see in this exchange a common trap that we will encounter in our marital covenant with God and our love of others. Just as the Pharisees used the law of marriage to try to trap Jesus in His speech, caring nothing about the deeper truths that this teaching revealed, we can also use the Law of God in a way that reveals our own hardness of heart. Love, be it that of marriage or the love that is the basis of our union with God, can easily be used as a weapon rather than a source of unity. Regarding others, we can easily fall into the trap of using the precepts of love as a source of manipulation and persuasion. “If you loved me, then you would...” Regarding our love of God, we can often reduce our love into a reluctant following of God’s most basic laws, such as “I have to go to church.” If love is to be pure and holy, it must rise above erroneous interpretations of love and be lived in the way it was intended to be lived. Pure love is always self-giving. It is sacrificial. It always looks to the good of the other. Love is total and must be irrevocable. Love forges a bond that should never be broken. It must endure everything and is possible only when it is grounded in the love that God has for us. Reflect, today, upon the way that you love. Does the hardness of your heart lead you to misrepresent the love God wants you to share with others? Do you minimize the

requirements of love? Is your love total, irrevocable, and freely given? Is your love self-seeking or self-giving? Reflect upon the pure and holy nature of the love God has offered to you, and recommit yourself to offer this same depth of love to God and to others so that the covenants that result from your love will always endure. -*My Catholic Life*

CATECHISM CLASS: Classes will start October 20th from 10:10 to 11:00. For those who have not registered yet, you can do so during the week or on the first day of classes.



CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION: Confirmation for this year will include Grade 8 and Grade 9. Registration and Information session, for the Sacrament of Confirmation for youth in Grade 8 and Grade 9 this year, will take place on Sunday, October 20th, 2024, at 5:15 pm at the Parish Centre. **This meeting/registration is for parents and students, and it is mandatory to attend.** The first class will commence immediately after the meeting for students, at 6:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Any questions please call Debbie Muise at 902-774-0373.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Knights of Columbus Council 2181 Annual Golf tournament will be held on Oct 10th with a 10am shotgun start. All funds raised are in support of the St Ambrose Summer Camp program. Contact Phil Mooney (902)749-6379 for details"



DECREE OF NULLITY: "The Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth invites people with questions or concerns about the application for nullity process to contact the Marriage Tribunal Office. The office is open and ready to assist anyone who seeks additional information or guidance in how to begin the process. We can be reached by phone at 902-429-9800 ext. 321 or please visit the "Marriage Tribunal" on the Archdiocesan website www.halifaxyarmouth.org under "Pastoral Services".

Canada Needs Our Lady: Please join us in praying the Rosary for Our Nation on Saturday, October 12 at 12:00 p.m. at St. Ambrose.

Annual pilgrimage on the occasion of the Feast of Our Lady of Victories: at St. Alphonsus Church, Monday October 7, 2024. 1:30 – welcome and procession with the Holy Virgin Mary with songs 2:00 – Rosary and Litany to the Holy Virgin Mary 2:30 – adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions 3:30 – Mass



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
 Carol Ann Bullerwell and Brenda Forbes
 Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

ADORATION CHAPEL CLOSED FOR A FEW WEEKS:

The entrance to our Adoration Chapel is in dire need of work. Work will begin on Tuesday October 1st and will conclude in around two weeks from that start date. If you are a visitor to the chapel, keep in mind that the church is unlocked during the daytime on most days. Thank you for your patience. Fr. Henry

JUBILEE YEAR 2025: In 2025 the Catholic Church celebrates a Jubilee Year. Pope Francis has stated that the overarching theme of our upcoming Jubilee year is: **hope**. In the papal bull declaring the year he wrote: “*May the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the 'door' (cf. Jn 10:7,9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere, and to all as 'our hope' (1 Tim 1:1),*” **What is a Jubilee year?** A Jubilee Year is a special celebration the Church holds at least once every 25 years. It’s a year of pilgrimages, of a focus on the spiritual life, of confession and special Masses, and of a general turn towards God in thanksgiving, and in repentance. It’s often said that Jubilee years are all about seeking and giving forgiveness - asking God and one another for forgiveness, and offering forgiveness to the people we need to forgive.